

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the following paragraph beginning at page 6, line 12:

Additionally, a user may select an effect and indicate a time at which that effect should begin 220. For example, the user may indicate that a brightening effect should start three minutes after a sequence commences. Additionally, the user may select an ending time or duration for the effect 230. Thus, by indicating that the effect should end five minutes after the sequence commences, or equivalently by indicating that the effect should last for two minutes, a user may set the time parameters of the brightening effect. Additional parameters may be specified by the user, as may be appropriate for the particular effect 240. For example, a brightening or dimming effect may be further defined by an initial brightness and an ending brightness. The rate of change may be predetermined, i.e., the dimming effect may apply a linear rate of dimming over the assigned timespan, or may be alterable by the user, e.g., may permit slow dimming at the beginning followed by a rapid drop-off, or by any other scheme the user specifies. Similarly, a pulse effect, as described above, might instead be characterized by a maximum brightness, a minimum brightness, and a periodicity, or rate of alternation. Additionally, the mode of alternation may be alterable by the user, e.g., the changes in brightness may reflect a sine function or alternating linear changes. In embodiments wherein color-changing lights units 40 are employed, parameters such as initial color, final color, rate of change, etc. may be specified by the user. Many additional effects and suitable parameters therefor are known or will be apparent to those of skill in the art, and fall within the scope of this disclosure.